

Message Text

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42

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NEA-05 EA-07 IO-09 FDRE-00 IGA-02 PRS-01

PA-02 SS-07 EB-05 SR-02 ORM-01 SSO-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01

/102 W

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O 281147Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 714

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

AMCONSUL NANA OKINAWA PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

JCS WASHDC PRIORITY

IDA/AA-3 PRIORITY

IDA/AA-3 PRIORITY

CNO WASHDC PRIORITY

CSAF WASHDC PRIORITY

CMC WASHDC PRIORITY

CSA WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER PRIORITY

USCINCRD MACDILLAFB FLA PRIORITY

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA PRIORITY

COMUSJAPAN FUCHU AS JAPAN PRIORITY

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI PRIORITY

CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER HI PRIORITY

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI PRIORITY

CGMFPAC CAMP SMITH HI PRIORITY

MAC SCOTT AFB IL PRIORITY

US EIGHTH ARMY SEOUL KS PRIORITY

CDR USARJAPAN PRIORITY

CDR USARBCO SUKIRAN JAPAN PRIORITY

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CDR SAFASIA FT BUCKNER OKINAWA JAPAN PRIORITY

DA WASHDC PRIORITY
CRDUSWRSUPTHAI SATTAHIP THAI PRIORITY
COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK THAI PRIORITY
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KOREA PRIORITY
CKRUSWRJ CP ZAMA JAPAN PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 7074

AIDAC

AID/W FOR FDRC
USMISSION GENEVA FOR UNDRC
CINCEUR FOR DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR LTC RKIMBLE (J-4)
CINCPAC FOR DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR LCDR FKOCHEY (J-3)

1. FLOOD CONDITIONS

A. PUNJAB PROVINCE. WATER FLOW IN PANJNAD CHANNEL
DROPPED IN PAST 24 HOURS TO JUST OVER 2000,000 CUSECS
BUT RAVI AND CHENAB CONTINUED SLIGHT RISE UPSTREAM
(HOWEVER, CHENAB BEGAN TO FALL AGAIN AFTER LOW CREST AT
1800 AUGUST 27). PANJNAD WATERS REPORTEDLY WERE SUCCESS-
FULLY DIVERTED INTO CHOLISTAN DESERT AREA VIA OLD BED
OF GHAGRA RIVER, THUS REMOVING THREAT TO RAHIM YAR KHAN.
UPDATED TOTALS OF PROVINCIAL DAMAGE STATISTICS:

1. PEOPLE DEAT -- 286
2. PEOPLE DISLOCATED -- 3,935,200 (CUMULATIVE)
3. PEOPLE EVACUATED -- 155,219
4. PEOPLE IN RELIEF CAMPS -- 129,345
5. DEAD OR MISSING CATTLE -- 69,409
6. LAND INUNDATED -- 7,128,424 ACRES (CUMULATIVE)
7. VILLAGES AFFECTED -- 4,582
8. HOUSES DESTROYED -- 258,288
9. TUBE WELLS DESTROYED -- 3,088

B. SIND PROVINCE. CONCERN CURRENTLY FOCUSED
MOST HEAVILY ON REGION HYDERABAD AND SOUTHWARD TO THE
SEA, WHERE FBOD CRESTING. PRESS REPORTS HIGH OFFICIALS
SHIFTING HEADQUARTERS SOUTHWARD: CHIEF MINISTER
MUMTAZ ALI BHUTTO TO HYDERABAD; CENTRAL LAW MINISTER
PIRZADA TO GOTKI-DAHARKI REGION NORTHERN SIND; PRIME
MINISTER BHUTTO AND FINANCE MINISTER MUBASHIR HASAN PLANNING
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VISIT LOWER SIND (HYDERABAD AND HALA) TODAY.

1. NORTHERN SECTOR. 1,000 ARMY PERSONNEL,
WORKING 48 HOURS, PLUGGED TWO BREACHES NEAR LARKANA;
OTHER ARMY UNITS STILL WORKING ON RICE CANAL BREACH
AND OTHER RIGHT BANK INDUS BREACH IN AREA. ENGINEERING
WORK GOING ON TO DIVERT RECEDING WATERS FROM KHANPUR-
RAHIM YAR KHAN AREA MORE RAPIDLY BACK INTO INDUS AND
DOWN INTO NORTHERN SIND. THIS NECESSITATING REIN-

FORCEMENT SOME CANALS AND INDUS LEFT BANK BUNDS TO PROTECT
UBAURO AND MIRPUR MATHELO AREAS NORTHERN SIND.

2. MIDDLE STRETCHES. ON RIGHT BANK (DADU-
SEHWAN) SITUATION DESCRIBED IN PRESS AS "IMPROVING FAST".
ON LEFT BANK THERE WAS ALSO IMPROVEMENT YESTERDAY,
MAINLY IN TERMS OF SAVING DAULATPUR (SOUTH OF MORO)
THROUGH REINFORCEMENT OF SMALL NEARBY CANAL BUND AND IN
TURNING BACK RIVER WATERS FROM ONE BREACH INTO ANOTHER
AND THUS BACK INTO INDUS, AN OPERATION HAILED AS SIG-
NIFICANT ENGINEERING FEAT. HOWEVER, DAMAGE IN THIS MOST
IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL REGION OF SIND HAS APPARENTLY
BEEN QUITE EXTENSIVE. PRESS REPORTS CROPS DAMAGED ON
150,000 TO 200,000 ACRES, 200 VILLAGES FLOODED
AND 100,000 PEOPLE DISPLACED NAWABSHAH DISTRICT. NATIONAL
HIGHWAY IMPASSABLE FOR LONG STRETCHES, SEVERAL RAILROAD
SPUR LINES BREACHED, BUT AS ON MONDAY MAIN KARACHI-
ROHRI RAILROAD LINE STILL INTACT.

3. SOUTHERN STRETCHES. LEVEL AT KOTRI
BARRAGE REPORTED BY RADIO TO HAVE REACHED 25 FEET
3 INCHES TUESDAY MORNING AND DISCHARGE AS OF LATE MONDAY
NIGHT VARIOUSLY REPORTED IN PRESS AS 737,000 CUSECS TO
756,000 CUSECS. US HELICOPTERS MONDAY REPORT WATER
RISING RAPIDLY AT KOTRI AND SOME FLOODING LOW-LYING
AREAS NORTH OF HYDERABAD CITY. WHILE BOTH HYDERABAD
AND THATTA (63 MILES TO THE SOUTH ON RIGHT BANK) APPEAR
SAFE, THERE IS ALREADY FLOODING OF AREAS SOUTH OF THATTA,
AFFECTING MOSTLY BANANA AND VEGETABLE CROP LANDS BUT
ALSO SOME COTTON, RICE, AND SUGAR CANE. MORE BREACHES
ARE FEARED IN THIS AREA, WHICH IS ON EDGE OF THAR DESERT
AND THEREFORE HAS DRY, SANDY, HIGHLY PERMEABLE BUNDS.
CONGEN LOCAL OBSERVED SITUATION ON THE SPOT MONDAY,
REPORTED LARGE NUMBERS OF VILLAGERS HAVE FLED
TO HIGH SPOTS AND ARE IN URGENT NEED ASSISTANCE (FOOD-
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CLOTHING) WHICH SO FAR NOT SUPPLIED.

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O P 281147Z AUG 73

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INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 7074

4. KARACHI SCENE. DISPLACED PEOPLE FROM

RAHIM YAR KHAN AND SURROUNDING AREA CONTINUE TO ARRIVE BY RAIL IN KARACHI AT RATE OF 150 TO 300 A DAY, WITH OTHERS GETTING OFF AT MORE NORTHERLY STATIONS AS FAR NORTH AS GOTKI. TOTAL NUMBERS HERE STILL NOT RELIABLY REPORTED, BUT ESTIMATED 5,000 TO 6,000 IN ORGANIZED CAMPS NEAR CONTONEMENT RAILWAY STATION AND LANDHI-KORANGI INDUSTRIAL AREA; MORE SAID TO BE BILLETED WITH RELATIVES.

2. MILITARY OPERATIONS.

A. UH-1 OPERATIONS.

(1) FOUR HELICOPTERS FLEW MONDAY, 27 AUG, HTWO OPERATING NORTHWARD TO KHANPUR AND TWO SOUTHWARD FROM SUKKUR. OPERATIONS COMPRISED 24 SORTIES, AIR DROP 16,000 LBS FOODSTUFFS, TRANSPORT 23 PASSENGERS, INCLUDING DELIVERY AND PICK-UP OF TWO PAKISTANI MEDICAL TEAMS.

(2) ONE HUEY DOWN WITH BROKEN OIL LINE (REPAIR EXPECTED TODAY) AND ONE DOWN FOR REGULAR 100 HOUR MAINTENANCE. ONE OF FOUR CRAFT THAT FLEW 27 AUG HIT TREE AND DAMAGED ROTOR BLADE. REPLACEMENT BLADE BEING DISPATCHED FROM KARACHI TO RAHIMYAR KHAN AND CRAFT EXPECTED TO BE BACK IN OPERATION LATE TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY.

B. BOAT OPERATIONS.

(1) SFOD 19 BEGAN MOVE BY HELICOPTER TO RAHIMYAR KHAN 261130Z AUG AND COMPLETED MOVE ON MORNING OF 27 AUG. IT WILL REMAIN THERE FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD WITH LT MABRY IN CHARGE.

(2) SFOD 21 PLANNED MOVE TO SUKKUR ON 27 AUG.

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AT LAST REPORT ON 28 AUG SFOD 21 WAS STILL LOCATED IN THE BAHAWALPUR AREA BUT PLANNED TO MOVE SOUTH SHORTLY.

C. CHIEF ODRP LUNCHEd 27 AUG AT RAHIMYAR KHAN WITH PAKISTAN ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL PIKKA KHAN AND MET WITH PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO WHO WAS BRIEFED BY CO HELICOPTER DETACHMENT. THE PM AGAIN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR HELICOPTER OPERATION.
SOBER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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